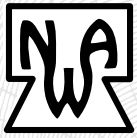


WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

April 2021, Vol. 30, Number 4

April Meeting

Half Moon ~ April 8 at 7:00 PM.

Speaker William (Chip) Reynolds

William (Chip) Reynolds will be the featured speaker at NWA's next NWA General Meeting April 8 at 7:00 PM. Watch for an e blast from President Irv Stephens for the Zoom link to connect remotely. Chip, captain of the replica ship Half Moon for over 20 years, has a long history sailing other ships as well, including authentic 19th century and replica 17th & 18th century vessels. Chip will overview traditional wood-working techniques of the 17th century, with examples from indigenous people of New York, as well as explore ship and boat-building practices in northern Europe. For details on his project overseeing repair of the Half Moon's main mast, see our February 2021 newsletter. Come with questions and expect entertaining and insightful answers!



William (Chip) Reynolds

Watch for the announcement that provides the link to the Zoom program.

Shopping for Used Tools

By Susan McDermott

NWA is fortunate to have a truly knowledgeable member appraising hand tools, handling estate sales, advising in the restoration of saws, planes, chisels, and the like. This person is Dave Parkis, the Hand Tool SIG Chair. His shop has an impressive collection of reconditioned and nearly new hand tools, and he is the man to contact if you seek to buy or sell a tool. He can advise you how to market the item yourself or how to buy with foreknowledge. He can be contacted by phone or e mail. 518-429-6581 or dparkis@nycap.rr.com The video pictured here is NOT Dave's! But it contains some basic information about shopping for used tools. [Click here to view it. Shopping for Used Hand Tools.](#)



NWA Showcase and Totally Turning Dates for 2022

From Showcase Chair, Wally Carpenter

While Showcase and Totally Turning have been on a COVID hiatus, we are all wanting to see its return in 2022! This is a simple reminder to start planning your calendars and building those amazing pieces for the Gallery. When combined with what I am sure are some amazing items you had already produced for 2020, we should have an outstanding showing by 2022. **Save the dates on your calendars for March 26-27, 2022!**

Shaker Journal

The Watervliet Shaker Journal, Winter 2021 prints the Heritage Site's expression of appreciation for the NWA volunteer projects accomplished. Forgive this editor for the scanned copy!

Keep an eye out for beautiful new Watervliet "candleflame" pickets custom-made by the Northeastern Woodworkers Association in the spring!

The Northeastern Woodworkers Association Does It All

How do we thank thee? Let us count the ways:



Thank you to the NWA for:

- Designing and building mounts and installing ten new interpretive signs on the property.
- Replacing a door on the Shaker Garage and placing a tarp on the

roof to keep out the rain until stabilization work can begin next year.

- Repairing the crash-bar mechanisms on the Shaker Heritage Barn doors.

We simply could not ask for better partners and stewards of this historic site!

New Interpretive Signs Greet Visitors

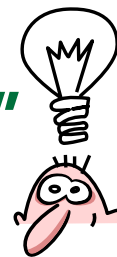


The SHS complex has long been a favorite spot for walkers, (many accompanying their dogs), and rental clients. It's fair to say that most of these folks have never taken a tour

or attended an SHS program. Since September they've been able to learn about the Shakers via a series of ten interpretive signs. Designed and fabricated through a generous grant from the **Hudson River Valley Greenway**, they were installed with in-kind support from the Northeastern Woodworkers Association. Thanks to a generous gift from **John and Betty Nickles**, we will create more signs to orient visitors to the Shaker Cemetery and Apple Orchard on Heritage Lane.

Project Growth Repairs Fence This fall, under the guidance of members of the Albany County DPW, a class from Project Growth spent two days at the Shaker Site rebuilding the split-rail fence along Meeting House Road. Project Growth is a program for young adults ages 17-24 who are involved in the criminal justice system. They receive mentoring on career skills, and work on paid service projects to earn money for restitution payments. The new fence creates a much better "first impression" for our visitors, and we deeply appreciate their help making the site more beautiful and welcoming! Special thanks to Brian McCoy for spearheading and coordinating the project with us.

"MEMBER'S WOODWORKING TRICKS"



Back to Kindergarten? Using Craft Paper in the Workshop

Submitted by Juliana Shei

I used to use old newspapers to protect my workbench and table saw surfaces when I do glue ups, sanding, or finishing. Sometimes newspaper ink gets on my hands and transfers on the wood, making it necessary to re-sand the surface. When my kids were young, I saw their teachers let children make big messes on the desks protected by a big sheet of craft paper. Some YouTube woodworkers use craft paper also. While I used to think old newspaper was more than enough for workshop purposes, I thought I would try craft paper.

But a roll of craft paper sitting in the corner (picture 1) I found was not very convenient. The thought of bringing it out, using scissors or tear to the size felt like "too much work", so that roll sat in the corner unused for too long. There was the need for a more convenient way to dispense the paper. Here is my solution.

I built a box with a lid using scrap plywood (picture 2). I hung it on the wall flush with the height of workbench. The box is built longer than the craft paper roll, securing space to keep glue or often used small items. The paper can easily be pulled out to cover the workbench and cut to the size needed (picture 3).

Send us your woodworking tips and tricks for a prize.

NWAnewsletter1@gmail.com

Submission deadline is the 15th of each month (except June and July).



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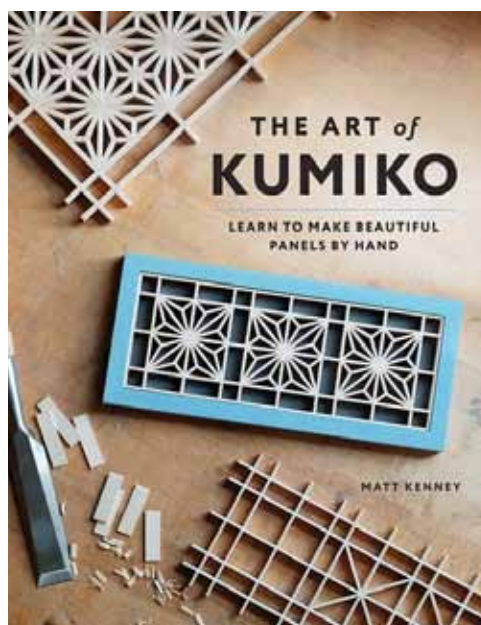
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Matt Kenney's New Book



Matt's new book (left) appears in many woodworking journals as his art grows in popularity.

NWA members may remember Matt as a guest, lecturer, and teacher for NWA on November 21, 2019. As the 2019 Milan Fiske Memorial Lecturer, Kenney taught NWA members an all-day class on Kimiko at NWA's Herm Finkbeiner Learning Center on November 22. Kumiko is a traditional Japanese technique dating from 600-700 AD used to create geometric and floral patterns in frames to decorate doors, windows, and room screens. The technique can also be incorporated into door panels,

tabletops, or cabinet bases. Our NWA woodworkers learned how to make a sample frame and create a classic geometric pattern. See his website at <https://www.mekwoodworks.com>

This is just one example of the high quality classes the NWA shop can offer when it is safe to reopen the Learning Center.

Carvers submit their projects to the Newsletter

The editor welcomes members' sharing their projects and photos for the benefit of our readers. Please continue to show us what you are doing in your shops as we can not yet have in-person General Meetings and Instant Gallery.

Raindrop pattern
Damascus steel
knife made by Diane
Balch.

The blade is 30 layers of 2 kinds of steel. The finish on the wood handle is three coats of True Oil, used for gunstocks. If you are interested in the forging process of the knife, contact Diane at signs@balchsigns.com

Diane also carved these two cacti for her grandson who grows small cacti. They are carved from Butternut, and the spines are toothpicks.



Damascus knife



Cacti

WOODWORKERS NEWS

is published by the Northeastern Woodworkers Association for its members. The Association's aim is to provide a common meeting ground for lovers of woodworking who want to know more about wood and the techniques for forming it. The newsletter is published monthly. The newsletter is available online at www.woodworker.org



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will be published
in early May

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A mirror Susan Persico carved for her daughter in law. The design is by Martin McKinney, a very gifted carver. The second photo is a collection of her carvings. Note the Coral snake!



Irish themed mirror



Collected carvings

Member Scott Hunter's carving of a sheep was based on a pattern published in the Spring 2021 issue of "Woodcarving Illustrated" magazine (PCs 69-72). Scott finished the carving in the form of a Scottish Shropshire sheep because his father kept this breed on Scott's childhood farm. Wood is Basswood, 4" L x 2" W x 4" H, colored with acrylic paints and finished in water-based satin polyurethane.



Sheep 1



Sheep 2

Rich Cerruto Conducted a Q and A Session for Members (Part I)

By Brea Barthel

Our February 11, 2021, a Zoom meeting featured Rich Cerruto explaining how he built two skin-on-frame pack canoes. His richly detailed slides and talk expanded on the lovely images in his previously distributed video. Rich noted that the project started with ordering a package from Cape Falcon Kayaks (www.capefalconkayaks.com/) that included a scalable pattern, training video, and technical support. He estimates that his first canoe took him 3.5 months (~ 50-55 hours). A second boat for his wife took 3 weeks (~ 45 hours). He anticipates that a third boat would take maybe 40 hours. One nice feature: the canoes have no built-in seats or thwarts, so his wife's slightly smaller canoe nests into his larger one for easier transporting and off-season storage. In Q&A Rich noted that the short-sided canoe is fine for quiet water and lakes, but too tippy to use in rough water or fast-moving streams.

A summary of major construction steps follows. For a 4.5-minute annotated slide show with more photos and production details (plus very cool music), see <https://youtu.be/cQfW25T2VHg>. Thanks to Rich for the videos, presentation, and tweaking of this article.

Shaping the boat's gunwales.



Adding ribs onto the gunwales. Rich explained that the ribs were green one-inch wide white oak that could be more easily bent. He cautioned that the length of each rib is critical, so that when bent they will form correct angles for an even shape.



Ribs curved to shape the frame. The size and shape are critical. Rich noted that sometimes a rib needs to be removed, boiled, and re-bent for a better shape.



Rich Cerruto's Q and A on February 11, 2021 (Part II)

By Brea Barthel

The follow up Zoom meeting allowed NWA members to question canoe builder Rich Cerruto on his YouTube demonstration of building a skin on frame pack canoe. See his video on <https://woodworker.org/videos-from-nwa>

Looking more like a frame, by adding long horizontal Western red cedar stringers on both sides. Then each crossing is carefully lashed with artificial sinew.



Once the frame with gunwales, ribs, stringers, and keel is complete, the fabric skin is wetted to make it pliable, then stretched onto the frame and tacked. To trim fabric, a heat gun is used rather than scissors to avoid fraying the fabric.



The wet fabric is then pulled tight and stapled in place. As the skin dries it tightens against the frame. Dozens of clamps are used to hold the "rub rails" in place while they are screwed to the gunwales.



The skin is dried for 24 hours, then dyed and covered with a polyurethane coating to create a waterproof seal. Final step: take it out on the water! The boater sits on a rubber pad placed on the deck and paddles the boat with a double-bladed kayak paddle.



With the scalable pattern, Rich crafted a slightly smaller boat for his wife. This nests nicely into Rich's boat when transporting and for off-season storage.

More Manuals Available

Over the years, NWA received numbers of donations of tools for the Annual Auction. As much as the Auction Committee tries to keep manuals with tools donated, some of the manuals become separated from the tool itself. We currently have the following manuals available to the members who could use them (free). Please send an e-mail to nwatoolmarket@yahoo.com before March 31st. The manual will be put aside with your name on it. Please include your e mail or phone number, so we may contact you.

Any unclaimed manuals will be discarded after March 31.

Delta Compound Miter Saw (model 36-220 Type III)

DeWalt 20" Variable Speed Scroll Saw (DW788)

Black & Decker Sharp 'n Sand

FESTOOL Domino System

BOSCH Hammer Drill (1194VSR, 1195VSR)

Porter Cable Router parts list

Ryobi Detail Biscuit Joiner (DBJ50)

Husky Gravity Feed Spray Gun

Wixey Electronic Digital Readout (WR500)

Geetech 13" Planer/Molder (CT233PM)

Craftsman 10" Miter Box Saw (900.234811)

Bosch Rotary Hammer (11207VS)

Bosch Jigsaw (1584)

Ryobi Cordless Drill Driver (CTH1202K2/CTH1442K2/CTH1802)

Craftsman 9" Electric Sander-Grinder (315.115051)

Porter Cable Finish Nailer parts list (FN250)

Ryobi Random Orbit Sander (RS280VS)

Black & Decker Palm Grip Sander (FS500, FS1000)

Triton ½" Precision Router (TRC001)

Husky Gravity-Feed Spray Gun



NWA Tool Market Update

As most of the NWA activities are on hold, the Auction Committee is hard at work to raise much needed funds as well as to provide our members opportunities to acquire quality used tools. Third month of the NWA Tool Market is going strong. Although over 50% of the items were picked up by enthusiastic members, remaining items are still available on <https://woodworker.org/tool-market/>.

As part of the Tool Market activities, turning blanks donated by late Bernie King were distributed to the members. Due to overwhelming response, the distribution was limited to ten pieces per person. Over twenty enthusiastic turners picked up the blanks at the NWA Shop on February 27.



Five members allowed in the shop per pick up to keep social distance.



Future turner Kara Stoliky

NWA Tool Market Going Forward

The Auction Committee's plan is to continue with the Tool Market online events through June, take July and August off, and pick up again with a monthly schedule beginning October 2.

April's event will be lumber only

The timetable for the events will continue as it has been conducted:

- Online site will open for review the last Saturday of each month.
- Online sale opens Noon the first Saturday of each month.
- Pick-ups will follow on the second Saturday morning of each month from The Shaker Museum Barn, 820 Heritage Lane, Colonie, NY 12205

If your membership has lapsed, join today to take advantage of this great NWA benefit!

<https://woodworker.org/membership/>



Our youngest woodworker, Teeling Stevens

Both members and non-members may donate an item(s) to NWA by contacting Lee Hilt for details and to schedule a pickup. nwaauction1@gmail.com

Proceeds will go to the NWA General Fund and the Fiske Educational Fund. Thank you for your continued support.



New member, Peter Zwagerman (left), Juliana Shei, and Lee Hilt with social distance.



Rich Cerruto bought a table saw and dismantles it for transporting.



Frequent buyer Patrick Cronin with the last of the turning tools



Volunteer Rick Bird moves bandsaw to buyer's truck.



These burls are free for the taking. Let us know what you made!

President's Column

Greetings, All - At the recent March NWA Meeting, members unanimously passed a proposal to change the organization's Bylaws relating to the terms of office for the President and Vice President. Starting with this May's upcoming elections, these officers will now be able to run and, if elected, can serve for up to 3 consecutive, single year terms. The Vice President will no longer automatically become President.

The Board believed, and members concurred, that these revisions will promote the smooth running of NWA by recognizing that "learning the ropes" for these offices frequently takes up most of a person's single one-year term. The Board is now considering other possible revisions to the Bylaws that soon might also be submitted to members for approval, but these are still in just a discussion phase.

At the end of the March meeting, a member asked me. "When will the Railroad Avenue Shop reopen?" I answered him as follows: I am monitoring infection rates for Albany and adjacent counties using at the Coronavirus Tracker feature available from the *New York Times*. The 14-day positive testing rate for Albany County is now around 3%. The trend seems to be a very gradual declining slope. This is promising if it continues, but there are two factors that are different now than when the Shop was closed late last year.

First, people are now getting vaccinated - there are open questions about vaccine effectiveness and durability, but overall, this is good news. Second, there are new COVID-19 variants loose in the land, and we will need to keep monitoring their prevalence. That said, I am guardedly optimistic that the Shop may be able open on a restricted basis sometime during April. To that end, I recently contacted SIG Leaders about what kind of programming they might be able to offer at least to segments of their group's members. For now, stay tuned and keep staying safe.

Irv Stephens, NWA President

General Meeting March 13, 2021 Featured Speaker, Fred Breglia

By Susan McDermott

NWA's March meeting featured a presentation by Fred Breglia, Landis Arboretum Executive Director, discussing old growth forests and "Big Tree" identification. Fred, a certified arborist through the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), has been executive director of Landis Arboretum for 11 years.

Landis Arboretum, located in Schoharie County at 174 Lape Road, near the town of Esperance, has 300 acres dedicated to tree species and wildlife habitats. As Fred noted, this includes "almost every species of tree that will grow in our area" as well as two old growth forests, a wetland Bluebird sanctuary, a new meditation garden, and a barn originally built by NWA's own Herm Finkbeiner. The organization offers two semiannual plant sales, a 5K run, classes, workshops, concerts, and more. Fred has dedicated 15 years developing the arboretum founded in 1951 by Fred Lape and George Landis, and has overseen the expansion of the meeting house and educational center which can also serve as an emergency shelter for the community. A visit to this vibrant, beautiful site in any season will not disappoint.

Beyond Landis, Fred has devoted his life from boyhood to the present searching for the oldest and biggest trees. Fred's slides included photos of many of the region's and country's largest specimens of various tree species. The world's oldest recorded living tree, 5067 years old, is a Bristlecone Pine in Nevada. The world's biggest trees can be found in America's Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. According to the National Park Service, The General Sherman Tree stands



275 feet tall and is 36 feet in diameter at the base. New York State can boast of old growth dating back to the 1700's such as Elders Grove in Paul Smiths College which has a White Pine 164.2 feet tall. Nelson Swamp in Cazenovia, NY has a White Pine about 450 years old. There is a Pitch Pine 360+ years old in Minnewaska State Park, near Rochester. One of Fred's many interesting points is that Zoar Valley, in Western New York, has the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, and 8th tallest trees in New York state.

When asked how trees are measured for height, girth, and crown, Fred explained that this was not a simple task. Tree size is measured by special instruments, with mathematical formulas that calculate points based on various factors. To establish age, the tree's girth is bored to withdraw a plug. The plug is finely sanded to expose all the rings. For a bit more detail, see a 2019 Times

Union article (www.timesunion.com/news/article/Fred-Breglia-seeks-and-speaks-for-the-trees-the-14922009.php). For far more detail, see the "American Forest Champion Trees Measuring Guidelines Handbook" as posted recently at www.facebook.com/groups/BigTreeSeekers/.

Fred is always seeking funding to run programs and expand buildings and invited NWA to help in this goal. Fred is willing to give our members exotic woods he has culled if those members will use some of the wood to create items that can be sold in the gift shop. If interested, contact Fred at 518 875 6935 (fred@landisarboretum.org). With warmer weather this is a great time to visit Landis for yourself. For directions, map, and more, see www.landisarboretum.org

Mid-Hudson Chapter Signs Partnership with Boat School: Gains Use of Shop in Kingston

By Rich Cerruto

On January 16th, the Mid-Hudson Woodworkers Chapter (MHW) signed a partnership with the Hudson River Maritime Museum (HRMM) in Kingston giving MHW access to the HRMM Wooden Boat School's shop and meeting hall. Monday evenings from 6:00-9:00 are reserved exclusively for MHW shop activities. Each session is organized as a member-led-project or class, scheduled in advance, with sign-up required. Classes thus far have included Introduction to Scroll Saw, Continuous Grain Boxes and Cutting Dovetails on a Table Saw. Upcoming classes include Building a Cigar Box Guitar, Turning a Pen and Carving a Canoe Paddle. Sessions are free of tuition but sometimes carry a materials fee.

Additionally, MHW gains use of the meeting hall once per month to hold general meetings. In exchange for use of HRMM facilities, MHW pays a nominal fee, will teach two public classes per year, and will build items for sale in the museum shop under a revenue sharing agreement.

More details including a calendar of activities can be found here: <http://www.midhudsonwoodworkers.org/shopactivities.htm> If you are not currently affiliated with the Mid-Hudson Chapter and wish to do so, contact midhudsonshop@gmail.com.



*Back Row: MHW Shop Committee Members Rich Cerruto & Jim Lee, Boat School Coordinator, John Phelan
Front Row: MHW Chapter President Bill Sterling, HRMM President John Weeks*

April Meeting

April 8 at 7:00 PM.

Half Moon

Speaker - William (Chip) Reynolds

**Watch for the announcement
that provides the link
to the Zoom program.**

2021 MONTHLY MEETINGS*

Unless noted otherwise, held at the Shaker Meetinghouse
on the Second Thursdays at 7:00 PM

For meeting cancellation information,
Charlie Goddard 370-0388

May 13 TBA Election of NWA officers

*To be updated with additional information

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs): Please note meetings will commence at our new location at 97 Railroad Avenue.

Adirondack Woodturners Association (AWA) - The AWA is active throughout the year. **General** Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month (except in January and July when it is the second Wednesday), at the NWA Learning Center located at 97 Railroad Avenue, Colonie, NY from 5:30 PM to 8:45 PM. **Contact:** Kevin Ramsey Cell 518-769-9665 or kmrammer@yahoo.com

Spindle and Pen Turners - Meets Mondays 5:30 PM - 8:45 PM. Contact: Pam Bucci at 518-429-6440 or woolglass2@gmail.com Wednesday "Learn and Turn" sessions occur on all other Wednesdays at the NWA Learning Center. These sessions run 5:30 PM to 8:45 PM. www.adirondackwoodturners.com **Contact:** Kevin Ramsey Cell 518-769-9665 or kmrammer@yahoo.com

Kaatskill Woodturners - Second Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM at the Opdahl property in Hurley, NY. **Contact:** Wally Cook at wally.cook@gmail.com

NWA Crafters - Meet Tuesdays and Saturdays 9:00 AM to noon. They provide public service woodworking for various charitable organizations, including the Double H Hole in the Woods camp for children and the GE Toy Modifications Group, and the Make A Wish Foundation. Sharing information, fellowship, and relating experiences are a major part of these sessions. **Contact:** Wayne Distin at 518-674-4171 or wdistin@nycap.rr.com, Ken Evans at 518-281-0779 or kevan1@nycap.rr.com, or John Heimke at heimkj@sage.edu for more information.

The NWA Wood Carvers SIG - Meet Thursdays 5:00-8:30 PM all year at the NWA Learning Center located at 97 Railroad Avenue, Colonie, NY. The goal is to promote the art of wood carving and to have a good time doing it. The only prerequisite is a desire to carve while making new friends. Wood, tools, and patterns are available. **Contact:** Diane Balch at 518-885-9899 or signs@balchsigns.com

Hand Tool SIG - Meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00-9:00 PM in the Herm Finkbeiner Education Center at 97 Railroad Avenue, Colonie, NY. **Contact:** Dave Parkis at 518-429-6581 for further details: dparkis@nycap.rr.com

Scrollers SIG - Meets every Monday and Wednesday 6 to 8:30 PM. Contact Pam Bucci woodglass2@gmail.com 518-429-6440 (for Mondays) Kay McCampbell kmcccampbell@nycap.rr.com 518-371-9608

CHAPTERS

NWA Mid-Hudson - The chapter meets on Zoom at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday, except July. Post Covid, in-person meetings will take place on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Hudson River Maritime Museum located at 50 Rondout Landing, Kingston NY 12401 **Contact:** midhudsonwoodworkers.org Bill Sterling, President - 845-532-3754 wster1156@aol.com